INITIAL STATEMENT OF REASONS:

The California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) proposes to amend Section 3341.5(b) of the California Code of Regulations (CCR), Title 15, Division 3, governing the Psychiatric Services Unit (PSU). This action is necessary to correctly define the PSU and its function. The change was a recommendation that was part of an accountability audit conducted by the Office of the Inspector General.

Section 3341.5(b) is amended to define the function of the PSU. Text provides that the PSU provide security housing and care for inmates with diagnosed psychiatric disorders that require placement in housing equivalent to the Security Housing Unit, but do not require inpatient hospital care.

The Department has made an initial determination that the action will not have a significant adverse economic impact on business. Additionally, there have been no facts, evidence, documents, testimony, or other evidence provided that would alter the Department's initial determination.

The Department has determined that no reasonable alternatives to the regulations have been identified or brought to the attention of the Department that would lessen any adverse impact on small business.

The Department must determine that no alternative considered would be more effective in carrying out the purpose of this action or would be as effective and less burdensome to affected private persons that the action proposed.

The Department has determined that this action imposes no mandates on local agencies or school district, or a mandate, which requires reimbursement pursuant to Part 7 (Section 17561) of Division 4.

The Department, in proposing amendments to these regulations, has not identified nor has it relied on any technical, theoretical, or empirical study, report, or similar document.